

Report on Lectureship Tour in Singapore, Aug 7–11, 2017

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As a recipient of the Asian Core Program (ACP)/Advanced Research Network (ARN) Lectureship Award from Singapore, I was very pleased and honored to have been invited to deliver lectures entitled “Photocatalytic Conversion of Alcohols for Selective Chemical Synthesis” at National University of Singapore (NUS) and Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

Aug 8th, 2017 Visit and Lecture at National University of Singapore (NUS)

My visit to NUS was hosted by Professor Shaozhong Ge. In the morning, I enjoyed discussions with Professors Jishan Wu and Chunyan Chi about their fascinating works on new π -conjugated materials. After the lunch at an excellent Sichuan restaurant inside NUS, I enjoyed a discussion with Professor Yu Zhao about his recent achievements on asymmetric catalysis and visited his laboratories. After giving the lecture, entitled as above, I had enjoyable chats and discussions with Professors Jie Wu (flow chemistry) and Yixin Lu (asymmetric catalysis). Then, a discussion with Shaozhong about his recent



Lunch at NUS, hosted by Prof. Yu Zhao (from left: Profs. Chunyan Chi, Jishan Wu, Shaozhong Ge, Yu Zhao, Jie Wu)

work on transition metal catalysis was followed by a pleasant dinner with him, his daughter, and Professor Jishan Wu at the NUS alumni house.

Aug 10th, 2017 Visit and Lecture at Nanyang Technological University (NTU)

The visit to NTU Chemistry and Biological Chemistry (CBC) division was hosted by Professor Naohiko Yoshikai and started with a discussion with him about his work on cobalt catalysis. After my lecture and active discussions with the audience, I enjoyed the lunch of local foods with the faculty members. It was my pleasure to chat with Professors Tamio Hayashi, Soo Ying Lee, and Rei Kinjo on this occasion. In the afternoon, I experienced a series of stimulating discussions with Professors Jianrong (Steve) Zhou (asymmetric synthesis), Felipe Garcia (main group synthetic chemistry), Xuewei Liu (glycopeptide synthesis and biology), Han Sen Soo (artificial photosynthesis), and Shunsuke Chiba (synthetic methodology). Throughout these discussions, I felt strong emphasis on the synthetic aspect of chemistry at NTU. After leaving the CBC division, I very much enjoyed dinner with Professor Yoshikai at a cozy bar on the NTU campus.



Dinner at NTU with Prof. Naohiko Yoshikai (left)

It was a great opportunity to exchange ideas and make friends with the top researchers in Singapore. I was especially delighted to learn that I share the interest in photocatalysis with two active young chemists, Jie and Han Sen. I would like to express my gratitude to Professor Teck Peng Loh at NTU for giving me the opportunity to visit these prestigious institutions and to the host professors for their warm hospitality. Similarly, I would like to thank the JSPS ACP/ARN program for financially supporting this wonderful trip.